

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

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Listing of Claims:

1 - 10 (cancelled)

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11. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and

a porous surface sheet adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing the absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin the food;

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wherein said porous surface sheet comprises a film having a plurality of protrusions, each protrusion having a convex side and a concave side;

wherein a hollow cavity is formed adjacent the protrusions on the convex side; and

wherein a pore is provided at the bottom of said concave side of each protrusion such that the protrusion forms a minute aperture;

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wherein a terminal portion of said porous surface sheet is adjacent the minute aperture and in contact with the absorption sheet; and

wherein the terminal portion forms a notched edge so as to facilitate air flow between the hollow cavity and the apertures.

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12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;

wherein said minute aperture is tapered with an opening of larger diameter on a side configured to adjoin the food.

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14. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;

wherein said absorption sheet and said porous surface sheet are adhered to each other in a manner that does not clog said minute aperture.

15. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 14;
wherein the absorption and porous surface sheets are glued either at dots or in a
line.

5 16. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured
with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 15;
wherein said drip absorption mat is sized to be laid on the mounting surface of the
tray between the tray and the food.

10 17. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
wherein said surface sheet defines a space occupied as a whole, said film
occupying not more than 30% of the space occupied as a whole.

15 18. (original) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
wherein the number of said apertures is not below 20 per 1 cm².

19. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
wherein said drip absorption mat is characterized by a ventilation resistance value
in a horizontal direction that does not exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m when measured by a test
methodology, comprising:

20 laying a plurality of drip absorption mats one on top of another to build a drip
absorption mat stack;

excising a cylinder of 28 mm in diameter and 5.0 mm thick in the direction of
layering; and

25 aerating said cylindrically excised drip absorption mat stack in the horizontal
direction.

20. (previously presented) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured
with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 11;

30 wherein said drip absorption mat is sized to be laid on the mounting surface of the
tray between the tray and the food.

21. (cancelled)